

Recognitions at May 2008 State Board Meeting

- **Presidential Awards for Science, Math Teaching Excellence**

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching is the highest recognition that a math or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States.

Enacted by Congress in 1983, this program authorizes the President to bestow up to 108 awards each year. Awards are given to math and science teachers from each of the 50 states and four U.S. jurisdictions.

Awardees serve as models for their colleagues, inspiration to their communities, and leaders in the improvement of mathematics and science education.

2006 National Science Winner

State Superintendent Jim Rex and State Board member Charles McKinney congratulate Becky Hall, a fourth-grade teacher at Cherokee Trail Elementary School (photo at right). The Abbeville County educator has taught science for 25 years and is the 2006 national winner of a Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching.



2006 National Math Winner

State Superintendent Jim Rex and State Board member Phillip Bowers congratulate Jennifer Bruce Hunter (photo at right), who teaches a K-1 multi-age class at Mountain View Elementary in Greenville County. A published children's book author and teacher for 13 years, Hunter is the 2006 national winner of a Presidential Award for Excellence in Math Teaching.



2007 State Science Awardee

State Superintendent Jim Rex and State Board member Amelia Herlong congratulate Tonya Kinsey Lee (photo at right), who teaches physics, astronomy and space science at White Knoll High School. The Lexington District One educator has taught high school science for 17 years and is a 2007 state awardee for Excellence in Science Teaching.





2007 State Science Awardee

State Superintendent Jim Rex and State Board member Charles McKinney congratulate Virginia McKesson Risinger (photo at left), who teaches seventh-grade science at Northside Middle School. The Greenwood District 50 educator has taught science for 10 years and is a 2007 state awardee for Excellence in Science Teaching.



2007 State Math Awardee

State Superintendent Jim Rex and State Board member Amelia Herlong congratulate Amy L. Amick (photo at left), who teaches probability and statistics at Lexington High School in Lexington District One. She is National Board certified and is a former school-level teacher of the year. Amick has been in the classroom for 10 years and is a 2007 state awardee for Excellence in Math Teaching.



2007 State Math Awardee

State Superintendent Jim Rex and State Board member Trip Dubard congratulate Amanda McKee (photo at left), who teaches geometry, math for the technologies and algebra at Johnsonville High School in Florence District Five. She holds National Board certification and Microsoft systems engineer certification. McKee has been in the classroom for 20 years and is a 2007 state awardee for Excellence in Math Teaching.

2007 State Math Awardee

State Superintendent Jim Rex and State Board member Rick Adkins congratulate Catherine Plowden (photo at right), who teaches geometry, math and algebra at Walhalla High School in Oconee County. She has National Board certification and is a former school-level and district teacher of the year. Plowden has been in the classroom for 10 years and is a 2007 state awardee for Excellence in Math Teaching.

